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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/909,468	07/19/2001	Thomas P. McKenna JR.	4000.2.15	7240

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DIGEO, INC C/O STOEL RIVES LLP  
201 SOUTH MAIN STREET, SUITE 1100  
ONE UTAH CENTER  
SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84111

EXAMINER
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HOSSAIN, FARZANA E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2623

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/25/2007	PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/909,468

Applicant(s)

MCKENNA, THOMAS P.

Examiner

Farzana E. Hossain

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 November 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5-17, 19-25, 27-49 and 51-67 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5-17, 19-25, 27-49, 51-67 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 19 July 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 11/10/2006.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 11/30/2006 has been entered.

### ***Response to Amendment***

2. This office action is in response to communications filed 11/30/2006. Claims 1, 3, 5, 17, 19, 25, 27, 41, 49, 51, 65-67 are amended. Claims 2, 6-16, 19 have been previously presented. Claims 4, 18, 26, 50, are cancelled. Claims 20-24, 28-40, 42-48, 52-64 are original.

### ***Response to Arguments***

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-67 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-3, 5-17, 20-22, 24, 25, 27-42, 44-49, 51-67 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ellis et al (US 2005/0028208 and hereafter referred to as "Ellis"). It is noted that Ellis incorporates by reference in its entirety (Pages 5-6, paragraph 0079 and Page 8, paragraph 0101) the application Boyer et al (Application No. 08/938,028 and hereafter referred to as "Boyer"). Note: the publication of US 2003/0066085, which is a continuation of 08/938,028 is cited and includes cleaner figures. Ellis also incorporates by reference in its entirety (Page 6, paragraph 0083) the application Hassell et al (Application 09/157,256 and hereafter referred to as "Hassell").

Regarding Claims 1, 41, 66, Ellis discloses an article of manufacture including a computer readable medium (Page 6, paragraph 0083, Page 7, paragraph 0092), a method and system for managing television (TV) programs received by an interactive

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TV system or information handling system or personal computer (PC) (Figure 1, Figures 2b-d, Figure 3, Figure 6c, Figure 12), the method and system comprising: a computer readable medium (Page 6, paragraph 0083, Page 7, paragraph 0092) comprising for each TV program, a program interface object (PIO) or program schedule information of a particular listing (Figure 8) for representing a respective/particular TV program within the interactive system, the PIO comprising a discrete data structure for encapsulating (Figure 7, Figure 8, Pages 8-9, paragraphs 0101-0103); attribute data for a plurality of attributes carrying information about the TV program (Figure 7, Figure 8, Page 10, paragraph 0112), a plurality of user selectable actions such setting a recording for the program and setting a reminder (Page 8, paragraph 0099, Page 10, paragraph 0115) that the user performs in connection with a particular program on an online electronic program guide (EPG) is a web page (Figure 7, Figure 8, Page 8, paragraph 0099, Page 10, paragraph 0115), a visual indicator or a program title with text displayable in the graphical user interface (GUI) to facilitate user interaction with the PIO (Figure 3, Figure 3A, 32) including graphical data (Page 10, paragraphs 0115); processing circuitry or display component is configured to display one or more visual indicators of respective PIOs (Page 6, paragraph 0082, Page 7, paragraph 0092); a selection component or remote control or any suitable input and output device receives user selection of the program title corresponding to the PIO or program schedule information (Page 7, paragraphs 0089, 0092), a transmission component or processing circuitry configured to transmit the attribute data, program code, and visual indicator with graphical data for the particular TV program associated with the selected PIO as a unit from one interactive

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TV system to another interactive TV system in response to the encapsulating PIO being sent between the interactive TV systems (Page 7, paragraphs 0088, 0092, Page 9, paragraphs 0104, 0106). Ellis discloses an online program guide and sending the data in the form of web pages (Pages 5-6, paragraph 0079, Page 8, paragraph 0101).

Microsoft Press 3<sup>rd</sup> edition Computer Dictionary defines Web page as a document on the World Wide Web, a Web page consist of an HTML file, with associated files or graphics and scripts, in a particular directory on a particular machine. Microsoft Press 3<sup>rd</sup> edition Computer Dictionary defines script as a program consisting of a set of instructions to an application or utility program. Ellis discloses receiving a user selection of a PIO through its visual indicator (Figure 7, Figure 8), displaying a list of available actions for the selected PIO; receiving a user selection of one of the available actions (Page 6, paragraph 0083, Page 8, paragraphs 0099, 0100, Page 12, paragraphs 0133), executing the program code included with the PIO for the selected action within the interactive TV system as it is necessarily included that if the user is selecting a PIO from an online program guide via a web page that program code is being executed for the selected action.

Boyer discloses the online program guide, which includes program code for a plurality of user-selectable actions performable by the interactive TV system (Page 16, lines 18-32, Page 17, lines 1-8, Figure 2, Page 38, lines 23-33, Page 39, lines 1-11, Page 22, lines 16-26). Boyer discloses the processing unit configured to display one or more visual indicators of the respective PIOs (Figure 24, Figure 2, 60), a selection component configured to receive a user selection (Figure 24, Page 17, lines 14-26).

Regarding Claims 17, 65 and 67, Ellis discloses a method and system for managing television (TV) programs received by an interactive TV system or information handling system or personal computer (PC) (Figure 1, Figures 2b-d, Figure 3, Figure 6c, Figure 12), the method and system comprising: a computer readable medium (Page 6, paragraph 0083) comprising for each TV program, a program interface object (PIO) or program schedule information of a particular listing (Figure 8) for representing a respective/particular TV program within the interactive system, the PIO comprising a discrete data structure for encapsulating (Figure 7, Figure 8, Pages 8-9, paragraphs 0101-0103); attribute data for a plurality of attributes carrying information about the TV program (Figure 7, Figure 8, Page 10, paragraph 0112), a plurality of user selectable actions such setting a recording for the program and setting a reminder (Page 8, paragraph 0099, Page 10, paragraph 0115) that the user performs in connection with a particular program on an online electronic program guide (EPG) is a web page (Figure 7, Figure 8, Page 8, paragraph 0099, Page 10, paragraph 0115), a visual indicator or a program title with text displayable in the graphical user interface (GUI) to facilitate user interaction with the PIO (Figure 3, Figure 3A, 32) including graphical data (Page 10, paragraphs 0115); processing circuitry or display component is configured to display one or more visual indicators of respective PIOs (Page 6, paragraph 0082, Page 7, paragraph 0092). Ellis discloses an online program guide and sending the data in the form of web pages (Pages 5-6, paragraph 0079, Page 8, paragraph 0101). Microsoft Press 3<sup>rd</sup> edition Computer Dictionary defines Web page as a document on the World Wide Web, a Web page consist of an HTML file, with associated files or graphics and

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scripts, in a particular directory on a particular machine. Microsoft Press 3<sup>rd</sup> edition Computer Dictionary defines script as a program consisting of a set of instructions to an application or utility program. Ellis discloses a filtering component or processing circuitry to filter an initial set of PIOs according to user specified filtering criteria or profiles and preferences (Page 7, paragraph 0088, Page 2, paragraph 0024, Page 5, paragraph 0071), an action display component configured to display a list of user-selectable actions associated with the selected PIO (Page 10, paragraphs 0114, 0115); an action selection component configured to receive a user selection of an action associated with the selected PIO from the list (Page 10, paragraphs 0114, 011, Page 6, paragraph 0083, Page 8, paragraphs 0099, 0100, Page 12, paragraphs 0133), and processing circuitry or action execution component configured to execute the program code included with the PIO for the selected action within the interactive TV system as it is necessarily included that if the user is selecting a function for a PIO from an online program guide via a web page that program code is being executed for the selected action.

Boyer discloses the online program guide, which includes program code for a plurality of user-selectable actions performable by the interactive TV system (Page 16, lines 18-32, Page 17, lines 1-8, Figure 2, Page 38, lines 23-33, Page 39, lines 1-11, Page 22, lines 16-26). Boyer discloses that a graphical user interface is other than a grid-based electronic program guide with columns corresponding to channels (Figure 24). Boyer discloses a filtering component or processing circuitry to filter an initial set of PIOs according to user specified filtering criteria or profiles and preferences (Figure



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19, Figure 15, 206, Figure 18, Figure 24), an icon display component or processing unit configured to display icons corresponding to PIOs satisfying the filtering criteria (Figure 24, Page 17, lines 14-18, Page 32, lines 9-15, Figure 2, 60), an action display component configured to display a list of user-selectable actions associated with the selected PIO (Page 11, lines 21-24, Page 12, lines 4-14, Page 38, lines 24-32, Page 39, lines 1-11); an icon selection component configured to receive a user selection of an icon corresponding to a selected PIO (Page 32, lines 28-32), an action selection component configured to receive a user selection of an action associated with the selected PIO from the list (Page 38, lines 19-32, Page 39, lines 1-11), an action execution component or processing unit (Figure 2, 60). It is necessarily included that if the user is selecting a PIO to perform an action such as display, remind, record, order from an online program guide via a web page that program code is being executed for the selected action as the web page authored by HTML is displaying and performing the functions of the program guide via the user devices.

Regarding Claims 2, 24, and 48, Ellis discloses all the limitations of Claims 1, 17 and 41 respectively. Ellis discloses that one visual indicator comprises one of text and graphics including video (Page 10, paragraph 0115). Boyer discloses a still image or icon and video clips (Figure 24, 304, 308, 310, Page 15, lines 1-5).

Regarding Claims 3, 25, and 49, Ellis discloses all the limitations of Claims 1, 17 and 41 respectively. Boyer discloses that at least one PIO encapsulates audio data for audible indicator or audio clips (Page 3, line 9, Page 16, lines 29-30). It is necessarily

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included that a playback component is configured to play back the audible indicator as CPU carries out the process of playing the audio related to the programming.

Regarding Claims 5, 27, and 51, Ellis discloses all the limitations of Claims 1, 17 and 41 respectively. Ellis discloses that the program code is machine-independent to be executable in a virtual machine within the interactive television system and any destination device to which the PIO is sent such that the program code does not need to be installed on the destination device prior to receiving the PIO in order to perform an associated user selected action (Page 9, paragraph 0104).

Regarding Claims 6, 28, and 52, Ellis discloses all the limitations of Claims 5, 27 and 51 respectively. Ellis discloses that program guide information is exchanged over remote access link using access communications, which include remote procedure calls, commands, requests, messages, client server communication and peer-to-peer communication and that the program guide information is encapsulated as a component object model (COM) (Page 9, paragraph 0104). Ellis discloses that program guide information or PIO can be a COM object that is distributed remotely between any entertainment device and a destination device and therefore the PIO is a DCOM object (Page 9, paragraph 0104).

Regarding Claims 7, 29, and 53, Ellis discloses all the limitations of Claims 1, 17 and 41 respectively. Ellis discloses that an attribute comprises a title of a program (Page 4, paragraph 0067, Figure 7, 151, Figure 8, 171).

Regarding Claims 8, 30, and 54, Ellis discloses all the limitations of Claims 1, 17 and 41 respectively. Ellis discloses that an attribute comprises a starting time of a program (Page 7, paragraph 0067, Figure 7, 162, Figure 8, 175).

Regarding Claims 9, 31, and 55, Ellis discloses all the limitations of Claims 1, 17 and 41 respectively. Ellis discloses that an attribute comprises a running time of a program as the running time of programs are displayed (Page 4, paragraph 0067, Figure 8, 175).

Regarding Claims 10, 32, and 56, Ellis discloses all the limitations of Claims 1, 17 and 41 respectively. Ellis discloses that an attribute comprises a description of a program as the description of programs is displayed (Page 4, paragraph 0067, Page 10, paragraph 0115).

Regarding Claims 11, 33, and 57, Ellis discloses all the limitations of Claims 1, 17 and 41 respectively. Ellis discloses that an attribute comprises an indication of channel on which the program is broadcast as the channels of programs are displayed (Page 4, paragraph 0067, Figure 7, 152, 154, 156, 158, 160, Figure 8).

Regarding Claims 12, 34, and 58, Ellis discloses all the limitations of Claims 1, 17 and 41 respectively. Ellis discloses that a user may record programs and program data in a recorder or optional storage (Page 6, paragraphs 0081, 0083). Hassell discloses a system that transmits program guide information to the users (Figure 1, 22, Figure 5A). Hassell discloses that the EPG can provide listings of programs that are stored on digital storage device (Page 14, lines 3-17), that a user can record a program on any mediums including DVD player with recordable DVD discs, magnetic storage

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drive, or removal storage (Page 7, lines 12-29, Page 32, lines 16-30), and that the program listing will have an attribute of the storage location of the program (Figure 13, Figure 5a, Figure 5b, Figure 21, 552, 528, Figure 4, Page 32, lines 16-32, Page 33, lines 1-27).

Regarding Claims 13, 35, and 59, Ellis discloses all the limitations of Claims 1, 17 and 41 respectively. Ellis discloses providing alternative languages for the program guides (Page 2, paragraph 0024).

Regarding Claims 14, 36, and 60, Ellis discloses all the limitations of Claims 1, 17 and 41 respectively. Ellis discloses that the display component is configured to display an attribute of the selected PIO (Page 4, paragraph 0067, Page 10, paragraph 0115).

Regarding Claims 15, 37, and 61, Ellis discloses all the limitations of Claims 1, 17 and 41 respectively. Ellis discloses that the recording component or processing circuitry is configured to record a TV program corresponding to the selected PIO using the recording device of the viewer station (Page 6, paragraph 0081-0083, Page 10, paragraph 0115). Boyer discloses a recording component or processing unit configured to record a TV program corresponding to a selected PIO using the interactive TV system (Page 11, lines 21-24, Page 12, lines 4-14, Page 38, lines 24-32, Page 39, lines 1-11).

Regarding Claims 16, 39, and 63, Ellis discloses all the limitations of Claims 1, 17 and 41 respectively. Ellis discloses tuning or displaying a program (Page 6, paragraph 0080, Page 12, paragraphs 0133, 0134). Boyer discloses at least one user

selectable action is configured to display the TV program using the interactive TV system (Page 10, lines 15-21).

Regarding Claims 20 and 44, Ellis discloses all the limitations of Claims 17 and 41 respectively. Ellis discloses a filtering component or processing circuitry, which filters PIOs according to user specified filtering criteria (Page 7, paragraph 0088, Page 2, paragraph 0024, Page 5, paragraph 0071) and display component or processing circuitry configured to display the visual indicators of the PIOs satisfying the filtering criteria (Page 7, paragraph 0088, Page 2, paragraph 0024, Page 5, paragraph 0071). Ellis discloses that the interactive television equipment and/or remote access device controls the generation and display of the EPG and can have personalized EPGs based on user's personal preferences and profiles, therefore the CPU will only display PIOs based on the user's preferences or filtering criteria. Boyer discloses a filtering component or processing circuitry which filters PIOs according to user specified filtering criteria and processing unit or display component configured to display the visual indicators of the PIOs satisfying the filtering criteria (Figure 24, Page 17, lines 14-18, Page 32, lines 9-15, Figure 2, 60).

Regarding Claims 21 and 45, Ellis discloses all the limitations of Claims 17 and 41 respectively. Ellis discloses a communication component configured to receive at least one PIO or the program related information from a remote system (Page 9, paragraphs 0104, 0106, Figure 2, 51, Figure 5, 58).

Regarding Claims 22 and 47, Ellis discloses all the limitations of Claims 17 and 41 respectively. Ellis discloses a communication component configured to transmit at

least one PIO to a remote system in response to a user command (Page 9, paragraphs 0104, 0106, Figure 2, 51, Figure 5, 58).

Regarding Claims 38 and 62, Ellis discloses all the limitations of Claims 37 and 61 respectively. Ellis discloses that the recording component or processing circuitry is configured to record a TV program corresponding to the selected PIO at a time indicated by the program (Page 10, paragraph 0115).

Regarding Claims 40 and 64, Ellis discloses all the limitations of Claims 39 and 63 respectively. Ellis discloses that a user may record programs and program data in a recorder or optional storage (Page 6, paragraphs 0081, 0083). Hassell discloses a system that transmits program guide information to the users (Figure 1, 22, Figure 5A). Hassell discloses that the EPG can provide listings of programs that are stored on digital storage device (Page 14, lines 3-17), that a user can record a program on any mediums including DVD player with recordable DVD discs, magnetic storage drive, or removal storage (Page 7, lines 12-29, Page 32, lines 16-30), and that the program listing will have an attribute of the storage location of the program (Figure 13, Figure 5a, Figure 5b, Figure 21, 552, 528, Figure 4, Page 32, lines 16-32, Page 33, lines 1-27). Hassell discloses a playback component configured to locate a stored recording of the TV program using an attribute of the selected PIO and displays the stored recording of the TV program (Page 33, lines 28-32, Page 34, lines 1-8, Figure 13, Figure 5a, Figure 5b, Figure 21, 552, 528, Figure 4, Page 32, lines 16-32, Page 33, lines 1-27).

Regarding Claims 42, Ellis discloses all the limitations of Claim 41. Ellis discloses a selection component or remote control with CPU to display in response to

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the user input of a visual indicator the list or menu of actions for a selected PIO (Page 10, paragraph 0115). Boyer discloses input of the visual indicator the list or menu of choices (Page 11, lines 21-24, Page 12, lines 4-14, Page 38, lines 24-32, Page 39, lines 1-11).

Regarding Claim 46, Ellis discloses all the limitations of Claim 45. Ellis discloses the program related information or PIO is received from a remote system via e-mail (Page 9, paragraph 0106).

6. Claims 19 and 43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ellis in view of Lawler et al (5,805,763 and hereafter referred to as "Lawler").

Regarding Claims 19 and 43, Ellis discloses all the limitations of Claims 17 and 42 respectively. Ellis discloses a selection component or remote control with CPU to display in response to the user input of a visual indicator the list or menu of actions for a selected PIO (Page 10, paragraph 0115). Boyer discloses input of the visual indicator the list or menu of choices (Page 11, lines 21-24, Page 12, lines 4-14, Page 38, lines 24-32, Page 39, lines 1-11). Ellis is silent that the menu is displayed in a context sensitive menu associated with the visual indicator of the selected PIO. Lawler discloses a context sensitive menu associated with the visual indicator of the selected PIO (Figure 6, 108, 102, 126, Figure 6, 136, Figure 10, 150). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Ellis to modify a context sensitive menu associated with the visual indicator of the selected PIO (Figure 6, 108, 102, 126, Figure 6, 136, Figure 10, 150) as taught by Lawler in order to provide

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possible actions to the user for the particular show whether it is pay per view program, current program future program or a past program so that the user can make decision based on their convenience (Column 10, lines 60-64, Figure 5, Figure 6, Figure 10, Column 16-22) as disclosed by Lawler.

7. Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ellis in view of Sullivan (US 6,549,929)

Regarding Claim 23, Ellis discloses all the limitations of Claims 21. Ellis is silent on modifying at least one attribute of a PIO in response to a schedule change. Sullivan discloses an interactive television system that displays an EPG (Figure 3, 50). Sullivan discloses that the method for checking any scheduled events such as recordings or reminders includes verifying the program with the scheduled event via the name and time and any changes causes events to be canceled and/or rescheduled (Figure 4B). It is necessarily included that the modifying of at least one attribute of a PIO in response to the schedule change otherwise the recording or reminding events cannot be cancelled and/or rescheduled. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Ellis to modify at least one attribute of a PIO in response to a schedule change (Figure 4B) as taught by Sullivan in order to resolve conflicts that arise from user scheduled actions or events (Column 2, lines 34-52) as disclosed by Sullivan.



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***Conclusion***

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Farzana E. Hossain whose telephone number is 571-272-5943. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher Kelley can be reached on 571-272-7331. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

FEH  
January 17, 2007

  
CHRIS KELLEY  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600